

NEW ENGLANDS TRIALS.

Declaring the successe of 80 Ships
employed thither within these eight yeares;
*and the benefit of that Countrey by Sea
and Land.*

With the present estate of that happie Plan-
tation, begun but by 60 weake men
in the yeare 1620.

And how to build a Fleete of good Shippes
to make a little Nanie Royall.

Written by Captaine *John Smith*, sometimes Go-
uernour of *Virginia*, and Admirall
of *New England.*

The second Edition.



LONDON,
Printed by WILLIAM IONES.
1622.



TO THE MOST
HIGH AND EXCEL-
LENT PRINCE CHARLES,
Prince of Wales; Duke of Cornwall, Yorke,
and Albanie; Marquis of Ormond, and Rothsey;
and Earle Palatine of Chester; Heire of
*Great Britaine, France, and
Ireland, &c.*

SIR,



When scarce any would be-
leeue mee there was any
such matter, your High-
nesse did not disdain to
accept my description, &
calld that *New England*,
whose barbarous names you changed for
such English, that none can denie but
Prince Charles is the Godfather. Whereby
I am bound in all reason and dutie to giue
you the best account I can how your child

doth prosper : and although as yet it is not much vnlike the Father in fortune, onely vfed as an instrument for other mens ends; yet the grace you bestowed on it by your Princely fauour, hath drawn so many iudgments now to behold it, that I hope shall find, it will giue content to your Highnesse, satisfaction to them, and so increase the number of well-willers, *New England* will be able to reiect her maligners, and attend Prince *Charles* with her dutifull obedience, with a trophie of honour, and a kingdome for a Prince. Therefore the great worke contained in this little booke, humbly desires your Princely patronage. No more but sacrificing all my best abilities to the exquisite iudgement of your renowned vertues, I humbly kisse your gracious hands.

*Your Highnesse true and
faithfull seruant,*

Io. Smith.



TO THE RIGHT
HONORABLE AND
RIGHT WORTHY ADVEN-
turers, to all Plantations and Disco-
ueries, their friends and well-willers,
especially of *Virginia* and
New England.

Right Ho.

I Confesse it were more proper
for me to be doing what I say,
then writing what I know: but
that it is not my fault, there is
many a hundreth can testifie, if
they please to remember what
paines I haue taken both parti-
cularly and generally to make this
worke knowne, and procure meanes to put it in practise.
That calumniations, doubts, or other misprissions hath
posed my endeuours, I had rather forget then re-
member, but still to expresse my forwardnesse, to the
consideration of your fauourable constructions I pre-
sent this short discourse of the proceedings and pre-
sente state of New England: if you please to peruse
and make vse of it, I am richly rewarded, though
they

doth prosper : and although as yet it is not
much vnlike the Father in fortune, onely v-
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yet the grace you bestowed on it by your
Princely fauour, hath drawn so many iudg-
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*worke knowne, and
what calumniations
posed my endeavours
remember, but still so
consideration of you
at this short disco-
very of New
England make use of*

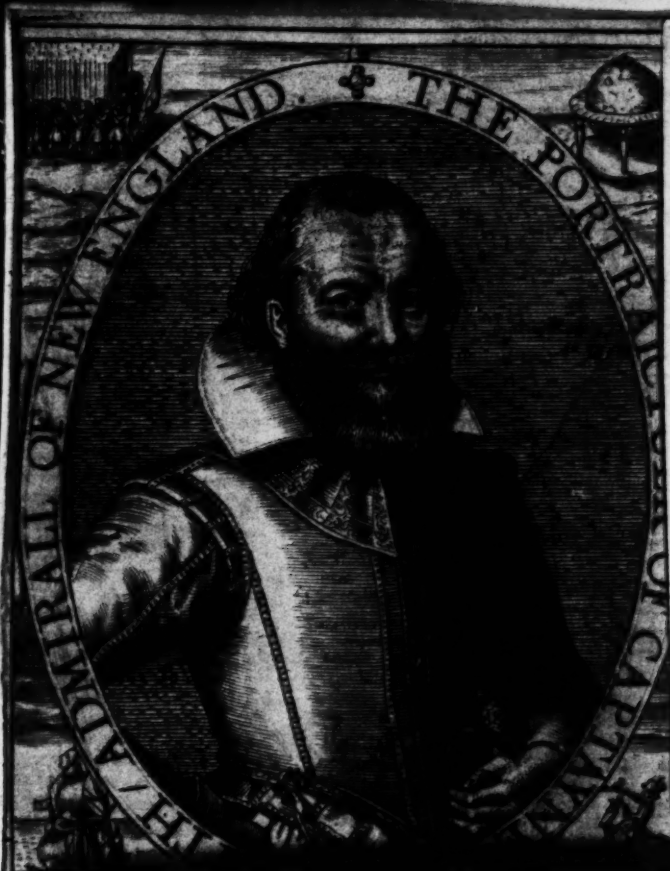
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PAGE.

they be but the collections and observations of a plaine
souldier, yet if you please to grace them with your com-
tenance and good acceptance, I shall therein thinke my
selfe happie, and hope that those labours may in time re-
turne you such fruites as hereafter may perswade you
to pardon this boldnesse, and accept them to be your
honest servants.

Yours to command,

Io. Smith.







These are the Lines that shew thy Face; but those
That shew thy Grace and Glory, brighter be:
Thy Faire-Discaueries and Fowle-Overthrowes
Of Salvages, much Civilliz'd by thee
Best shew thy Spirit; and in it Glory Wynn
So thou art Brasse without, but Golde within.

If so, in Brasse two soft Smiths (as to beare)
Fix thy Name, to make Brasse Steele outweare.

Thus as thou art Virgins,
John Davies. Hereof:

NEW ENGLAND

The most remarkable parts thus named
by the high and mighty Prince Charles,
Prince of great Brittain.



Scale of Miles

Original and Revised by John Smith.



These are the Lines that shew thy Face; but those
That shew thy Grace and Glory, brighter bee:
Thy Faire-Discoveries and Fowle-Overthrowes
Of Salvages, much Civilliz'd by thee
Best shew thy Spirit; and to it Glory Wyne:
So, thou art Brasse without, but Golde within.


*If so; in Brass, two soft smiths Acts to beare.)
I fix thy Fame, to make Brass Steele out weare.*

Thine, as thou art Virtues,
John Davies. Heref: South Hampton



 Inguan

Bristow

Sawmouth  Fuller.

The River CHARLES

Massachusetts

Cheyot hills

London

Oxford & Payne

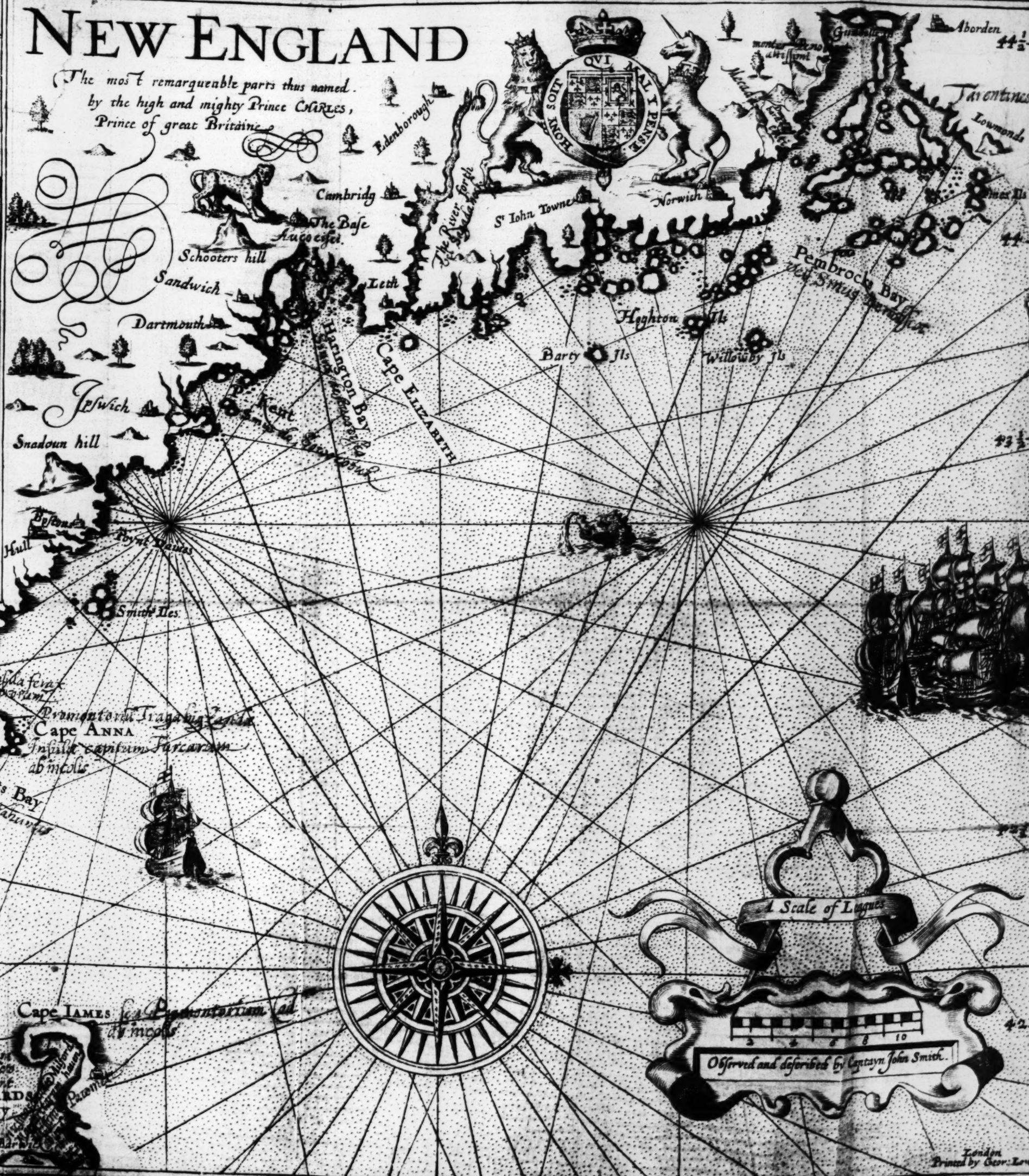
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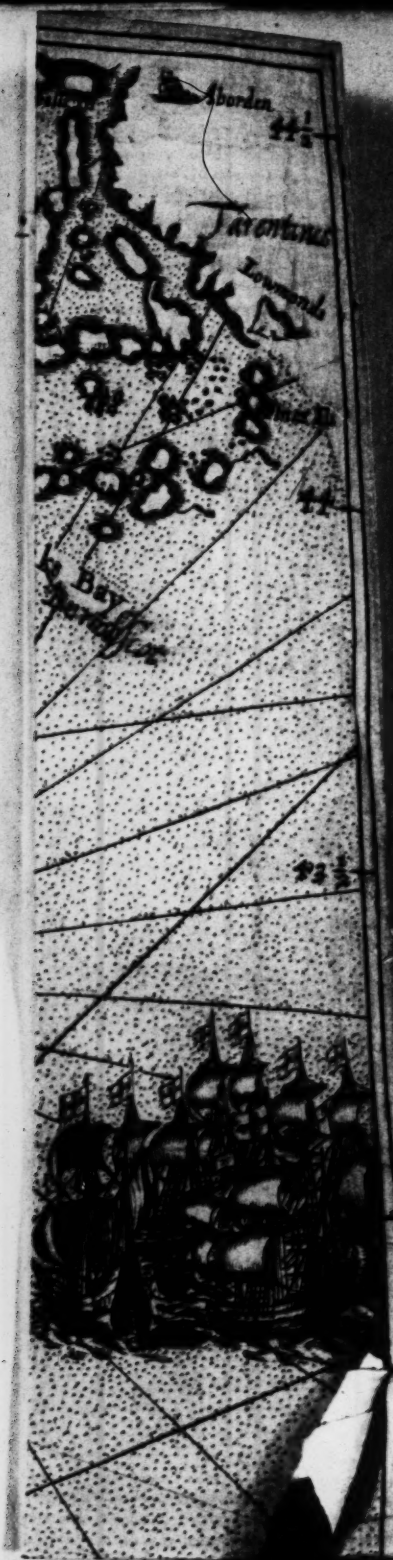
Simon Pascaus sculpteur.
Robert Clerke exculpteur.

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NEW ENGLAND

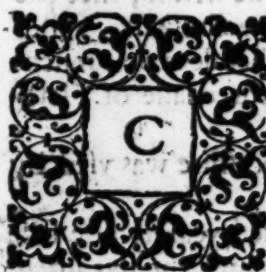
The most remarqueable parts thus named
by the high and mighty Prince CHARLES,
Prince of great Brittain.







NEW ENGLANDS TRIALS, AND PRE- SENT ESTATE.



Concerning the description of
this Countrey, six yeares ago
I writ so largely, as in brieft
I hope this may suffice you to
remember, that *New England*
is a part of *America*, betwixt
the Degrees of 41. and 45. the
very meane betwixt the North
Pole and the Line. From 43. to 45. the coast is
mountainous, rockie, barren and broken lles that
make many good harbours. The water is deepe,
close to the shore; there are many riuers and fresh
springs: few Saluages, but an incredible abundance
of fish, fowle, wilde fruits, and good timber. From
43. to 41. & a half, an excellent mixed coast of stone,
hard and clay, much corne, many people, some lles,
many good harbours, a temperate aire, and therein
all things necessary for the building ships of any pro-
portion, and good merchandize for their fraught,
within a square of 12 leagues: 35 harbours I found
30 severall Lordships I saw, and so neare as I
could imagine, 3000 men. I was vp one riuer for
200 miles, crossed the mouths of many, whose heads
are reported to be great lakes; where they kill their
Beuers;

NEW ENGLANDS TRIALS.

Beuers; inhabited with many people, who trade with those of *New England*, and them of *Cannada*.

The benefis of fisbing, as Mr. Dee reporteth in his British Monarchie.

He saith that it is more then 44 yeares ago, and it is more then 40 yeares since he writ it, that the Herring Busses out of the Low-countries, vnder the King of *Spaine*, were 300. besides 100 Frenchmen, and three or foure hundred saile of Flemings.

The coasts of *wales* and *Lancashire* was vsed by 300 saile of strangers.

Ireland at *Baltimore* fraughted yearly 300 saile of Spaniards, where King *Edward* the sixt intended to haue made a strong Castle, because of the strait, to haue tribute for fishing.

Blacke Rocke was yearly fished by three or foure hundred saile of Spaniards, Portugals & Biskiners.

Mr. Gentleman and many *Fisher-men* and *Fish-mongers* with whom I haue conferred, report,

The *Hollanders* raise yearly by Herring, Cod, and Ling, 3000000 pounds.

English and French by Salt-fish, poore Idin, Salmons and Pilchards, 300000 pounds.

Hambrough and the Sound, for Scurgion, Lobsters and Eccles, 100000 pounds.

Cape Blanke for Tunny and Mullie, by the Biskiners and Spaniards 30000 pounds.

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*But diners other learned experienced Observers
say, though they may seeme incredible,*

That the Duke of *Medina* receiveth yearly tribute of the fishers for Tunny, Mullit and Purgos, more then 10000 pounds.

Lubeck hath 700 ships: *Hambraugh* 600: *Embsden* lately a fisher towne, 1400. whose customes by the profit of fishing hath made them so powerfull as they be.

Holland and *Zeland*, not much greater then *Yorkshire*, hath thirtie walled townes, 400 villages, and 20000 saile of shippes and hoyes; 3600 are fishermen, whereof 100 are Doggers, 700 Pinckes and Welbotes, 700 Frand botes, Britters and Todebotes, with 1300 Busses, besides three hundred that yearly fish about *Tarmouth*, where they sell their fish for gold; and fifteene yeares ago they had more then 116000 sea-faring men.

These fishing ships do take yearly 200000 Last of fish, twelue barrells to a Last, which amounted to 3000000 pounds by the Fishermens price, that 14 yeares ago did pay for their tenths 300000 pound; which venting in *Pomerland*, *Spuscia*, *Denmarke*, *Lesland*, *Russia*, *Swethland*, *Germany*, *Netherlands*, *England*, or elsewhere, &c. make their returnes in a yeare about 7000000 pounds; and yet in *Holland* they have neither matter to build ships, nor merchandize to set them foorth; yet by their industrie they as much increafe, as other Nations decay. But leauing these vncertainties as they are, of this I am certaine,

B

That

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That the coast of *England*, *Scotland*, and *Ireland*, the North Sea, with *Ireland* and the Sound, New-found land and Cape Blanke, do serue all *Europe*, as well the land Townes as Ports, and all the Christian shipping, with these sorts of Staple fish which is transported, from whence it is taken, many a thousand mile, viz.

{ *Herring.*
Salt-fish.
poore Iohn.
Sturgeon.
Mullit.
Tunny.
Porgos.
Caviare.
Buttargo.

Now seeing all these sorts of fish, or the most part of them, may be had in a land more fertile, temperate, and plentiful of all necessities for the building of ships, boates and houses, and the nourishment of man; the seasons are so proper, and the fishings so neare the habitations we may there make, that *New England* hath much aduantage of the most of those parts, to serue all *Europe* farre cheaper then they can, who at home haue neither wood, salt, nor food, but at great rates; at Sea nothing but what they carry in their ships, an hundred or two hundred leagues from their habitation.

But *New England*s fishings is neare land, where is helpe of wood, water, fruites, fowles, corne, or other refreshings needfull; and the *Terceras*, *Azores*, *Canaries*, *Spaine*, *Portugale*, *Pronance*, *Sauoy*, *Sicilia*, and all *Italy*, as conuenient markets for our dry Fish, greene Fish, Sturgeon, Mullit, Caviare, and Buttargo, as *Norway*, *Swethland*, *Lithuania* or *Germany*, for their Herring, which is here also in abundance for taking; they returning but wood, pitch, tarre, soape-ashes, cordage, flaxe, waxe, and such like commodities: we, wines, oyles, sugars, silks, and

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and such merchandize as the Straits affoord, where by our profit may equalize theirs; besides the increase of shipping and Mariners. And for prooffe hercof:

With two ships sent out at the charge of Captain Marmaduke Roydon, Captain George Langam, M. Iohn Buley and W. Skelton, I went fro the Downes the third of March, and arived in New England the last of April, where I was to have staid but with ten men to keep possession of those large territories. Had the whales proned, as curious information had assured me and my adventures, (but those things failed.) So having but fortie five men and boyes, we built seven boates, 37 did fish; my selfe with eight others ranging the coast, I tooke a plot of what I could see, got acquaintance of the inhabitants; 1100 Beaver skins, 100 Martins, and as many Osters. 40000 of drie fish we sent for Spaine, with the salt fish, traine oile and Farres, I returned for England the 18 of Iuly, and arived safe with my company the latter end of August. Thus in six moneths I made my voyage out and home; and by the labour of 45, got neare the value of 1500 pounds in those grosse commodities. This yeare also one went from Plimmoth, set out by diners of the Isle of Wight and the west country, by the directions & instructions of Sir Ferdinando Gorge, spent their vituals, and returned with nothing.

Prooffe 1.
1614.

The Virginia Company upon this sent 4 good ships; and because I would not undertake it for them, having ingaged my selfe to them of the west, the Londoners entertained the men that came home with me. They set saile in Ianuary, and arived there in March; they found fish enough untill halfe Iune, fraughted a ship of 300 Tuns,

Prooffe 2.
1615.

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went for Spaine, which was taken by the Turks; one went to Virginia to relieue that Colonie, and two came for England with the greene fish, traine oile and Furres, within six moneths.

Prooffe 3.
1615.

In Ianuary with 200 pounds in cash for aduerture, and six Gentlemen wel furnished, I went from London to the foure ships was promised, prepared for me in the west country, but I found no such matter; notwithstanding at the last with a labyrinth of trouble I went from Plimmoth with a ship of 200 Tuns, and one of fiftie: when the fishing was done onely with 15, I was to stay in the country; but ill weather breaking all my masts, I was forced to returne to Plimmoth, where rather then lose all, reimbarking my selfe in a Bark of 60 Tuns, how I escaped the English pyrates and the French, and was betrayed by sonre French men of warre, I referre you to the Description of New England: but my Vice-Admirall, notwithstanding the latenessse of the yeare, setting forth with me in March, the Londoners in Ianuary, she arriued in May, they in March, yet came home well fraught in August, & all her men well, within 5 months, odde days.

Prooffe 4.
1616.

The Londoners ere I returned from France, for all their losse by the Turks, which was valued about 4000 pounds, sent two more in Iuly; but such courses they took by the Canaries to the West Indies, it was ten moneths ere they arriued in New England, wasting in that time, their seasons, victuall and healths, yet there they found means to refresh themselves, and the one returned, neare fraught with fish and traine, within 2 moneths after.

Prooffe 5.
1616.

From Plimmoth went 4 ships, onely to fish and trade, some in Februarie, some in March, one of 200 Tuns got thither in a month, and went full fraught for Spaine, the

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the rest returned to Plimmoth well fraught, and their men well, within five moneths, odde dayes.

From London went two more, one of 200 Tuns, got thither in six weeks, and within six weeks after with 44 men and boyes was full fraught, and returned again into England within five moneths; and a few daies; the other went to the Canaries with drie fish, which they sold at a great rate, for Rials of 8, and as I heard turned pirats.

Prooffe 6.
1616.

I being at Plimmoth provided with 3 good ships, yet but fifteen men to stay with me in the country was wind-bound three moneths, as was many a hundred saile more, so that the season being past, the ships went for Newfoundland, whereby my designe was frustrate, which was to me & my friends no small losse, in regard whereof here the Westerne Commissioners in the behalfe of themselves and the rest of the Companie, contracted with me by articles indented under our hands, to be Admirall of that Country during my life, and in the renewing of their Letters patents so to be nominated; halfe the fruits of our endeuours theirs, the rest our owne; being thus ingaged; now the businesse doth prosper, some of them would vvolingly forget me; but I am not the first they haue acciued.

Prooffe 7.
1617.

There was foure good ships prepared at Plimmoth, but by reason of their disagreement, the season so wasted, as onely 2 went forward, the one being of 200 Tuns, returned well fraught for Plimmoth, and her men in health, within five moneths; the other of 80 Tuns, went for Bilbow with drie fish, and made a good returne. In this voyage Edward Rowcrott, alias Stallings, a valiant souldier, that had bin with me in Virginia, and seuen yeares after went with me from Plimoth towards

Prooffe 8.
1618.

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New England with Thomas Dirmer an understanding and an industrious Gentleman to inhabite it; all whose names with our proceedings you may reade at large in my description of New England, upon triall before the Iudge of the Admiraltie, how when we had past the worst, for pure cowardize the Maister and sailers ran away with the ship and all I had, and left me alone among 8 or 9 French men of warre in the yeare 1615. This Stallings went now againe in those ships, and hauing some wrong offered him in New England by a French man, he tooke him, and as he writ to me, he went with her to Virginia with fish, to trade with them for such commodities as they might spare; he knew both these countries well, yet he promised me the next Spring to meet me in New England; but the ship and he perished in Virginia.

Prooffe 9.
1619.

This yeare againe, diuers ships intending to go from Plimmoth, so disagreed, as there went but one of 200 Tuns, who stayed in the country about 6 weeks, with 38 men and boyes, had her fraught, which she sold at the first penie, for 2100 pounds, besides the Furres: so that euery poore sailer that had but a single share, had his charges, and 16.l. 10.s. for his seven moneths worke. Mr. Thomas Dirmer hauing liued about a yeare in New-found-land, returning to Plimmoth, went for New England in this ship, and not only confirms what I haue writ, but so much more approued of it, that he stayed there with fise or six men in a little boate; finding 2 or 3 Frenchmen among the sauages, who had lost their ship, augmented his companie, with whom he ranged the coast to Virginia, where he was kindly welcomed and well refreshed; thence returned to
New

NEW ENGLANDS TRIALS.

New England again, where hauing bin a yeare, in his back-returue to Virginia, he was so wounded by the sauages, he died upon it, them escaped were relieved at Virginia. Let not men attribute their great adventures and vnimely deaths to vnfortunatenesse, but rather wonder how God did so long preserue them, with so small means to do so much, leauing the fruits of their labours to be an encouragement to those our poore vnder takings; and this for aduantage as they vvit vnto me, that God had laid this Country open for vs, and slaine the most part of the inhabitants by cruell vvarres and a mortall disease; for where I had seene 100 or 200 people, there is scarce ten to be found. From Pembrocks bay to Harrintons bay there is not 20; from thence to Cape An, some 30; from Taulbutts bay to the River Charles, about 40, and not any of them touched with any sickness, but one poore French man that died.

For to make triall this yeare there is gone 6 or 7 saile Prooue 10.
from the west country, onely to fish, three of whom are 1620.
returned, and as I was certainly informed, made so good a voyage, that euery sailer for a single share had 20 pounds for his 7 moneths vwork, which is more then in 20 moneths he should haue gotten had he gone for wages any where. Now though all the former ships haue not made such good voyages as they expected, by sending opinionated unskilfull men, that had not experienced diligence to saue that they tooke, nor take that there was; which now patience and practise hath brought to a reasonable kind of perfection: in despite of all detractors and calumniation, the Country yet hath satisfied all, the defect hath bin in their vsing or abusing it, not in it selfe nor me.

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A plantation in New England.

Prooffe 11.
1620.

· Vpon these inducements some few well disposed Gentlemen and Merchants of *London* and other places provided two ships, the one of 160 Tunnes, the other of 70; they left the coast of *England* the 23 of August, with about 120 persons, but the next day the lesser ship sprung a leake, that forced their returne to *Plimmoth*, where discharging her and 20 passengers, with the great ship and a hundred persons besides sailers, they set saile againe the sixt of September, and the ninth of November fell with *Cape Iames*; but being pestered nine weeks in this leaking vnwholsome ship, lying wet in their cabbins, most of them grew very weake, and weary of the sea, then for want of experience ranging to and again, six weeks before they found a place they liked to dwell on, forced to lie on the bare ground without couerture in the extremitie of Winter, fortie of them died, and 60 were left in very weake estate at the ships coming away, about the fift of April following, and ariued in England the sixt of May.

Prooffe 12.
1620.

Immediatly after her ariuall, from London they sent another of 55 Tunnes to supply them, with 37 persons, they set saile in the beginning of Iuly, but being crossed by Westerly winds, it was the end of August ere they could passe *Plimmoth*, and ariued at *New Plimmoth* in *New England* the eleuenth of Nouember, where they found all the people they left in April, as is said, lustie and in good health, except six that died. Within a moneth they returned here for *England*, laded with clapboord, wainscot & walnut, with about three hogsheads of Bener skins,
and

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and some Saxefras, the 13 of December, and drawing neare our coast, was taken by a Frenchman, set out by the Marquis of Cera Gouverneur of Ile Den on the coast of Poysson, where they kept the ship, imprisoned the Master and companie, took from them to the value of about 500 pounds; and after 14 days sent them home with a poore supply of victuall, their owne being deuoured by the Marquis and his hungry seruants; they arived at London the 14 of Februarie, leaving all them they found and caried to *New England* well and in health, with victuall and corne sufficient till the next harvest.

The copie of Letter sent by this ship.

Lowing cousin, at our arriuall at New Plimmoth in New England, we found all our friends and planters in good health, though they were left sicke and weake with very small meanes, the Indians round about vs peaceable and friendly, the country very pleasant and temperate, yeelding naturally of it self great store of fruites, as vines of diuers sorts in great abundance; there is likewise walnuts, chesnuts, small nuts and plums, with much varietie of flowers, rootes, and herbs, no lesse pleasant then wholsome and profitable: no place hath more goose-berries and straw-berries, nor better Timber of all sorts you haue in England, doth euer the Land, that affords beasts of diuers sorts, and great flocks of Turckies, Quailles, Pigeons and Partridges: many great lakes abounding with fish, fowle, Beuers and Otters. The sea affounds vs as great plenty of all excellent sorts of sea-fish, as the riuers and Iles doth varietie of wilde fowle of most vsfull sorts. Mines we find to our thinking, but neither the goodnesse nor qualitie we know. Better grain cannot be then the Indian corne, if we will plant it vpon as good ground as a man need desire. We are all free-holders, the rent day doth not trouble vs, and all those good blessings we haue, of which and what we list in their seasons for taking. Our companie are for

G most

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most part very religious honest people, the word of God sincerely taught us every Sabbath: so that I know not any thing a contented mind can here want. I desire your friendly care to send my wife and children to me, where I wish all the friends I have in England, and so I rest

Your loving kinsman William Hilton.

Prooffe 13.
1621.

From the West country went ten or twelve ships to fish, which were all well fraughted; those that came first at Bilbow made 17 pounds a single share, besides Beaver, Otters and Martins skins; but some of the rest that came to the same ports that were already furnished, so glutted the market, their price was abated, yet all returned so well contented, they are a preparing to go againe.

For this
yeare 1622.

There is gone from the west of England onely to fish 35 ships, & about the last of April two more from London, the one of 100 Tuns, the other of 30, with some 60 passengers to supply the plantation with all necessary provisions. Now though the Turke and French hath bin somewhat too busie, would all the Christian Princes but be truly at unitie, as his royall Maiestie our Soueraigne Lord and King desireth, 70 saile of good ships were sufficient to fire the most of his coasts in the Leuant; and make such a guard in the straits of Hellespont, as would make the great Turke himselfe more afraid in Constantinople, then the smallest red crasse, crosses the seas would be, either of any French, Piccaroun, or the pirates of Argere.

An abstract of Letters sent from the Collony
in New England, Iuly 16. 1622.

Since the newes of the massacre in Virginia, though the Indians continue their wonted friendship, yet are we more wary of them then before; for their hands hath bin
embrued

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embrued in much English blood, onely by too much confidence, but not by force.

Here I must intreate a little your fauours to digresse. They did not kill the English because they were Christians, but for their weapons and commodities, that were rare nouelties; but now they feare we may beate them out of their dens, which Lions and Tygers would not admit but by force. But must this be an argument for an English man, or discourage any either in *Virginia* or *New England*? No: for I haue tried them both. For *Virginia*, I kept that country with 38, and had not to eate but what we had from the sauages. When I had ten men able to go abroad, our common wealth was very strong: with such a number I ranged that vnknown country 14 weeks; I had but 18 to subdue them all, with which great army I slayed six weekes before their greatest Kings habitations, till they had gathered together all the power they could; and yet the Dutch-men sent at a needlesse excessiue charge did helpe *Powhatan* how to betray me.

Of their numbers we were vncertaine; but them two honorable Gentlemen (Captaine *George Percie* and Captaine *Francis West*, two of the *Phittiplaces*, and some other such noble gentlemen and resolute spirits bore their shares with me, and now liuing in *England*) did see me take this murdering *Opechawkanough* now their great King by the long locke on his head, with my pistole at his breast, I led him among his greatest forces, and before we parted made him fill our Bark of twenty Tuns with come. When their owne wants was such, I haue giuen

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them part againe in pittie, and others haue bought it againe to plant their fields.

For wronging a souldier but the value of a peny, I haue caused *Powhatan* send his owne men to *James Towne* to receiue their punishment at my discretion. It is true in our greatest extremitie they shot me, slue three of my men, and by the folly of them that fled tooke me prisoner; yet God made *Pocahontas* the Kings daughter the meanes to deliuer me: & thereby taught me to know their trecheries to preserue the rest. It was also my chance in single combat to take the King of *Paspahugh* prisoner, and by keeping him, forced his subiects to worke in chaines, till I made all the country pay contribution, hauing little else whereon to liue.

Twise in this time I was their President, and none can say in all that time I had a man slaine: but for keeping them in that feare I was much blamed both there and here: yet I left 500 behind me that through their confidence in six months came most to confusion, as you may reade at large in the description of *Virginia*. When I went first to those desperate designes, it cost me many a forgotten pound to hire men to go; and procrastination caused more run away then went. But after the ice was broken, came many braue voluntaries: notwithstanding since I came from thence, the honorable Company haue bin humble suiters to his Maiestie to get vagabonds and condemned men to go thither; nay so much scorned was the name of *Virginia*, some did chuse to be hanged ere they would go thither, and were: yet for all the worst of spite, detraction and discour-

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discouragement, & this lamentable massacre, there is more honest men now furers to go, then ever hath bin constrained knaves; and it is not vnkown to most men of vnderstanding, how happie many of those Collumners doe thinke themselves, that they might be admitted, and yet pay for their passage to go now to *Virginia*: and had I but meanes to transport as many as would go, I might haue choise of 10000 that wou'd gladly be in anyot these new places, which were so basely contemned by vngratefull base minds.

To range this countrey of *New England* in like maner I had but eight, as is said; and amongst their brute conditions I met many of their silly incounters, and without any hurt, God be thanked; when your West country men were many of them wounded and much tormented with the sauages that assaulted their ship, as they did say themselves, in the first yeare I was there 1614. and though Mr. *Hunt* then Master with me did most basely in stealing some sauages from that coast to sel, when he was directed to haue gone for *Spaine*, yet that place was so remote from *Capawack*; where *Epenew* should haue fraughted them with gold ore. His fault could be no cause of their bad successe, howeuer it is alledged for an excuse. I speake not this out of vain-glory, as it may be some gleaners, or some was never there may censure me, but to let all men be assured by those examples, what those sauages are that thus strangely doe murder and betray our country men. But to the purpose.

what is already writ of the healthfulnessse of the aire,

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the richnesse of the soile, the goodnes of the woods, the abundance of fruits, fish, and fowle in their season, they still affirm that haue bin there now neare 2 yeares, and at one draught they haue taken 1000 basses, and in one night twelue hogsheds of herring. They are building a strong fort, they hope shortly to finish, in the interim they are well provided: their number is about a hundred persons, all in health, and well neare 60 acres of ground well planted with corne, besides their gardens well replenished with usefull fruits; and if their Aduenturers would but furnish them with necessaries for fishing, their wants would quickly be supplied. To supply them this 16 of October is going the Paragon with 67 persons, and all this is done by priuat mens purses. And to conclude in their owne words, should they write of all plenties they haue found, they thinke they should not be beloued.

For the 26 saile of ships, the most I can yet understand is, M. Ambrose Iennens of London, and M. Abrahā Iennens of Plimmoth sent (their Abraham) a ship of 210 Tuns, and the Nightingale of Porchmouth of 100. whose fish at the first penie came to 3150 pounds: in all they were 35 saile: and where in Newfound land they shared six or seuen pounds for a common man, in New England they shared 14 pounds; besides six Dutch and French ships made wonderfull returnes in furre.

1622.

Thus you may see plainly the yearely successe from New England (by Virginia) which hath bin so costly to this kingdome and so deare to me, which either to see perill or but bleed, pardon me though it passionate me beyond the bounds of modestie, to haue bin sufficiently able to foresee it, and had neither power nor meanes how to preuent it. By that
ac-

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acquaintance I haue with them, I may call them my children, for they haue bin my wife, my hawks, my hounds, my cards, my dice, and in totall my best content, as indifferent to my heart as my left hand to my right; and notwithstanding all those miracles of disasters haue crossed both them & me, yet were there not one English man remaining (as God be thanked there is some thousands) I would yet begin againe with as small meanes as I did at the first; not for that I haue any secret encouragement from any I protest, more then lamentable experiences: for all their discoueries I can yet heare of, are but pigs of my owne sowe; nor more strange to me then to heare one tell me he hath gone from *Billings gate* and discouered *Greenwich, Grauesend, Tilbery, Quinborow, Lee and Margit*, which to those did neuer heare of them, though they dwell in *England*, might be made seem some rare secrets and great countries vnknowne, except the relations of *Mr. Dirmer*.

In *England* some are held great travelers that haue seene *Venice and Rome, Madrell and Algere, Prague or Ragouza, Constantinople or Ierusalem*, and the *Piramides of Egypt*; that thinke it nothing to go to the *Summer Iles or Virginia*, which is as farre as any of them, and I hope in time will proue a more profitable and a more laudable iourney. As for the danger, you see our Ladies and Gentlewomen account it nothing now to go thither; and therefore I hope all good men will better apprehend it, and not suffer them to languish in despaire, whom God so wonderfully and so oft hath preserved.

What here I haue writ by relation, if it be not right,

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right, I humbly intreate your pardons, but I haue not spared any diligence to learne the truth of them that haue bin actors or sharers in those voyages: in some particulars they might deceiue me, but in the substances they could not, for few could tell me any thing, except where they fished: but seeing all those haue liued there, do confirme more then I haue writ, I doubt not but all those testimonies with these new begun examp'les of plantation, will moue both Citie and Country freely to aduenture with me and my partners more then promises, seeing I haue from his Maiestie Letters Patents, such honest, free and large conditions assured me from his Commissioners, as I hope wil satisfie any honest vnderstanding.

But because some fortune tellers saith, I am vnfortunate; had they spent their time as I haue done, they would rather beleue in God then their calculations, & peraduenture haue giuen as bad account of their actions; and therefore I intreat leaue to answer those obiectors, that think it strange if this be true, I haue made no more vse of it, rests so long without employment, and hath no more reward nor preferment: to which I say:

I thinke it more strange they should taxe me before they haue tried as much as I haue both by land and sea, as well in *Asia* and *Africa*, as *Europe* and *America*, where my commanders were actors or spectators, they alwaies so freely rewarded me, I neuer needed to importunate, or could I ever learne to beg; what there I got, I haue thus spent: these sixteen yeares I haue spared neither paines nor money according

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cording to my abilitie, first to procure his Maiesties Letters pattents, and a Company here to be the means to raise a company to go with me to *Virginia*, as is said: which beginning here and there cost me neare 5 yeares worke, and more then 400 pounds of my owne estate, besides all the dangers, mileries and incumbrances I endured gratis, where I stayed till I left 500 better prouided then ever I was: from which blessed *Virgin* (ere I returned) sprung the fortunate habitation of *Somer Isles*.

This *Virgin* after now called *New England* in 1610. at my humble suit by our most gracious Prince *Charles* hath bin neare as chargeable to me and my friends: for all which although I neuer got shilling, but it cost me many a pound, yet I thinke my selfe happie to see their prosperities.

If it yet trouble a multitude to proceed vpon these certainties, what thinke you I vndertook when nothing was knowne, but that there was a vast land; I neuer had power and meanes to do any thing, though more hath bin spent in formall delayes then would haue done the business; but in such a penurious and miserable manner as if I had gone a begging to build an Vniuersitie: where had men bin as forward to aduenture their purses and performe the conditions they promised me, as to crop the frutes of my labours. thousands ere this had bin bettered by these designs. Thus betwixt the spur of Desire and the bridle of Reason I am neare ridden to death in a ring of despair: the reines are in your hands, therefore I intreate you to ease me: and those that thinke I am either idle or vnfortunate may see the cause, & know: vnlesse I did see better dealing, I haue had warning enough, not to be so forward again at euery motion vpon their promises, vnlesse I intended

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nothing but to cary newes. For now they dare adventure a ship, that when I went first, would not adventure a groate, so they may be at home again by Michalmas: which makes me remember M. *Hickliss*; oh incredulitic! the wit of fooles, that slovenly do spit at all things faire; a sluggards cradle, a cowards castle, how easie it is to be an infidell: but to the purpose.

By this all men may perceiue the ordinary performance of this voyage in five or six moneths, the plenty of fish is most certainly approved: & it is certain, from *Cannada* and *New England* within these six yeares hath come neare 20000 Beaver skins. Now had each of those ships transported but some small quantitie of the most increasing beasts, fowles, fruit, plants and seeds, as I projected, by this time their increase might have bin sufficient for a thousand men. But the desire of present gain (in many) is so violent, and the endeours of many vnder-takers so negligent, every one so regarding their private gaine, that it is hard to effect any publick good, and impossible to bring them into a body, rule, or order, vnlesse both authoritie and many assist experiences. It is not a worke for every one to plant a Colonie; but when a house is built, it is no hard matter to dwell in it. This requireth all the best parts of art, iudgement, courage, honestie, constancie, diligence and experience to do but neare well: your home bred ingrossing projectors shall finde there a great difference betwixt saying and doing. But to conclude, the fishing wil go forward if you plant it or no; whereby a Colonie may be transported with no great charge, that in a short time might prouide such fraughts to buy of vs there dwelling, as I would hope no ship should go or come empty from *New England*.

The

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The charge of this is onely salt, nets, hookes, lines, knives, Irish rugs, course cloth, beades, glasse, and such trash, onely for fishing and trade with the sauaiges, beside our owne necessary prouisions, whose endeuours wil quick'y defray all this charge, and the sauaiges haue intreated me to inhabite where I will. Now all these ships, till this last yeare, haue bin fished within a square of two or 3 leagues, and not one of them all would aduenture any further, where questionlesse 500 saile may haue their fraught better then in *Island, Newfoundland*, or elsewhere, and be in their markets before the other can haue their fish in their ships, because *New Englands* fishing begins with February, the other not till mid May; the progression hereof tends much to the aduancement of *Virginia* & the *Bermudas*, whose emptie ships may take in their fraught there, and would be a good friend in time of need to the inhabitants of *New foundland*.

The returnes made by the Western ships, are commonly deuided into three parts, one for the owner of the ship, another for the Master and his companie, the third for the victuallers: which course being still permitted, wil be no hindrance to the plantation, go there neuer so many, but a meanes of transporting that yearly for little or nothing, which otherwise will cost many a hundred of pounds.

If a ship can gaine twentie, thirtie, fiftie in the 100, nay 300 for 100. in 7 moneths, as you see they haue done, spending twise so much time in going & coming as in staying there: were I there planted, seeing the varietie of the fishings in their seasons serueth the most part of the yeare, & with a little labour we might make all the salt we need vse. I can conceiue no reason to di-

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strutt, but the doubling and trebling their gaines that are at all the former charge, and can fish but two moneths in a yeare: and if those do giue 20.^s 30. or 40. shillings for an acre of land, or ship carpenters, forgers of iron, &c. that buy all things at a deare rate, grow rich; when they may haue as good of all needful necessities for taking (in my opinion) shoud not grow poore; and no commodity in *Europe* doth more decay then wood.

Mr. *Dee* recordeth in his *Brittish Monarchie*, that King *Edgar* had a nauie of 4000 saile, with which he yearely made his progresse about this famous Monarchie of *Great Brittain*, largely declaring the benefit thereof: whereupon it seemes he projected to our most memorable Queene *Elizabeth*, the erecting of a Fleete of 60 saile, he called a little Nauie Royall; imitating the admired *Pericles* Prince of *Athens*, that could neuer secure that tormented estate, vntill he was Lord and Captain of the Sea.

At this none need wonder; for who knowes not, her Royall Maiestie during her life, by the incredible adventures of her Royall Nauy, and valiant souldiers and sea-men, notwithstanding all trecheries at home, the protecting and defending *France* and *Holland*, and reconquering *Ireland*, yet all the world by sea or land both feared, loued, & admired good Queen *Elizabeth*.

Both to maintaine and increase that incomparable honour (God be thanked) to her incomparable Successour, our most Royall Lord and Soueraigne King *James*, &c. this great Philosopher hath left this to his Maiestie and his kingdomes consideration: That if the Tenth of the Earth be proper to God, it is also due by Sea: the Kings high wayes are common to passe, but not to dig for Mines or any thing; so *Englands* coasts are

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are free to passe, but not to fish, but by his Maiesties prerogative.

His Maiesty of *Spain* permits none to passe the Popes order for the East and West *Indies*, but by his permission, or at their perils. If all that world be so iustly theirs, it is no iniustice for *England* to make as much vse of her own shores as strangers do, that pay to their own Lords the tenth, and not to the owner of those liberties any thing to speake of; whose subjects may neither take nor sell any in their territories; which small tribute would maintain this little Navie Royall, and not cost his Maiestie a penny; and yet maintaine peace with all forreiners, and allow them more courtesie, then any nation in the world affords to *England*.

It were a shame to alledge, that *Holland* is more worthy to enioy our fishings as Lords thereof, because they haue more skill to handle it, then we, as they can our wooll and vndressed cloth, notwithstanding all their wars and troublesome disorders.

To get mony to build this Navy, he saith, who would not spare the 100 peny of his Rents, and the 500 peny of his goods; each seruant that taketh 40. s. wages, 4. d; and euery forreiner of 7 yeares, of age 4. d. for 7 yeares: not any of these but they will spend 3 times so much in pride, wantonnesse, or some superfluitie. And do any men loue the securitie of their estates, that of themselves would not be humble suiters to his Maiestie to do this of free will as a voluntary beneuolence; or but the one halfe of this; (or some such other course as I haue propounded to diuers of the Companies) free frō any constraint, taxe, lottery or imposition, so it may be as honestly and truly employed as it is projected, the poorest mechanick in this kingdom would gaine by it.

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you might build ships of any proportion and numbers you please, five times cheaper then you can do here, and haue good merchandize for their fraught in this vnknowne land, to the aduancement of Gods glorie, his Church and Gospel and the strengthening and reliefe of a great part of Christendome, without hurt to any, to the terror of pyrats, the amazemēt of enemies, the assistance of friends, the securing of Merchants, and so much increafe of navigation to make *Englands* trade and shipping as much as any nation in the world, besides a hundred other benefits, to the generall good of all good subiects, & would cause thousands yet vnborn blesse the time and all them that first put it in practise.

Now lest it should be obscured as it hath bin to priuate ends, or so weakly vndertakē by our overweening incredulitie, that strangers may possesse it, whilst we contend for *NewEnglands* good, but not *Englands* good; I present this to your Highnes and to all the Lords in *England*, hoping by your gracious good liking and approbation to moue all the worthy Companies of this noble Citie, and all the Cities and Countries in the whole Land to consider of it, since I can finde them wood and halfe visuall, with the aforesaid aduantages, with what facilitie they may build and maintaine this little Nauie Royall, both with honour, profit and content, & inhabite as good a country as any in the world, within that parallel, which with my life & what I haue I wil endeuour to effect, if God please, and you permit. But no man will go from hence, to haue lesse freedome there then here; nor aduenture all they haue, to prepare the way for them that know it not: and it is too well knowne there hath bin so many vndertakers of Patents and such sharing of them, as hath bred no lesse discouragement

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rage ment then wonder, to heare such great promises and so little performances. In the interim you see the *Dutch* and *French* already frequent it: and God forbid them in *Virginia* or any of his Maiesties subjects should not haue as free libertie as they. To conclude, were it not for Mr. *Pierce* and a few priuate Adventurers with him, what haue we there for all these inducements?

This yeare 3
ships went from
London, set out
by Maister Iohn
Farrar and his
Partners.
The *Bona noua*
300 men.
The *Hopwell* 70
The *Darling* 40

As for them who pride or conetoulnes lulleth asleepe in a cradle of slothfull carelesnes, would they but consider how all the great Monarchies of the earth haue bin brought to confusion; or but remember the late lamentable experience of *Constantinople*; and how many Cities, Townes and Prouinces in the faire rich kingdoms of *Hungarie*, *Transiluania*, *Wallachia* and *Moldauia*; and how many thousands of Princes, Earles, Barons, Knights, Merchants and others, haue in one day lost goods, liues and honors; or sold for slauess like beasts in a market place; their wiues, children & seruants slaine or wandring they knew not whither, dying or liuing in all extremities of extreame miseries and calamities. Surely they would not onely do this, but giue all they haue to enioy peace and libertie at home; or but aduenture their persons abroad, to preuent the conclusions of a conquering foe, who common'y assaileth & best preuaileth where he findeth wealth and plentie (most armed) with ignorance and securitie.

Though the true condition of war is onely to suppress the proud, and defend the innocent and humble, as did that most generous Prince *Sigismundus Balthor* Prince of those countries, against them, whom ynder the colour of iustice and pietie, to maintaine their superfluitie of ambitious pride, thought all the world too little to maintaine their vice, and vndoe them, or
keepe

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keepe them from abilitie to do any thing that would not admire and adore their honors, fortunes, couetousnes, falshood, bribery, crueltie, extortion, and ingratitude, which is worle then cowardize or ignorance, and all maner of vildnesse, cleane contrary to all honour, vertue and noblenesse.

Much more could I say, but lest I should be too tedious to your more serious affaires, I humbly craue your honorable and fauourable constructions and pardons if any thing be amisse.

If any desire to be further satisfied, they may reade my *Description of Virginia and New England*, and peruse them with their severall Maps: what defect you finde in them, they shall find supplied in me or my authors, that thus freely hath throwne my selfe with my mite into the Treasury of my Countries good, not doubting but God will stir vp some noble spirits to consider and examine if worthy *Collumbus* could give the *Spaniards* any such certainties for his designe, when *Queene Isabel* of *Spaine* set him forth with fiftene saile. And though I can promise no Mines of gold, yet the warlike *Hollanders* let vs imitate, but not hate, whose wealth and strength are good testimonies of their treasure gotten by fishing. Therefore (honorable and worthy Countrymen) let not the meannesse of the word *Fish* distaste you, for it will afford as good gold as the mines of *Guiana* or *Tumotum*, with lesse hazard and charge, and more certaintie and facilitie; and so I humbly rest.

FINIS.

